

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A print control method of an electrophotograph in an image formation apparatus including at least a photoconductor, a charger, a light exposure unit, and a developing device for forming a background area and an image area on the photoconductor using the charger and the light exposure unit and detecting a potential of the image area after transfer and controlling a developing electric field, thereby printing an electrophotograph, said method comprising:

lowering the percentage of toner covering the image area on the photoconductor when the potential is detected.

5. (Amended) The print control method of an electrophotograph as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the potential is detected, avoidance control of a developing bias applied to the developing device is performed so as to lower the toner covering percentage on the photoconductor.

6. (Amended) The print control method of an electrophotograph as claimed in claim 2, wherein, when the potential is detected and the detected potential passes through a developing nip width of the developing device, avoidance control of the developing bias is performed to suppress a carrier fly.

12. (Amended) The print control method as claimed in claim 11, wherein a peripheral electric field of the image area is controlled based on a detection value of the film thickness of the photoconductor.

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13. (Amended) The print control method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the image formation apparatus includes a dark attenuation storage section storing the potential lowering amount which is caused by dark attenuation of the photoconductor previously detected by the light exposure unit and corresponding to a detection value of the film thickness of the photoconductor and a detection value of a humidity sensor.

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15. (Amended) An image formation apparatus of an electrophotograph comprising:

- a photoconductor;
- a charger;
- a light exposure unit;
- a developing device for forming a background area and an image area on the photoconductor using the charger and the light exposure unit which detects a potential of the image area after transfer and controls a developing electric field; and
- a toner covering percentage lowering unit adapted to lower the toner covering percentage of the image area on the photoconductor when the potential is detected.

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